

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-55 (canceled)

Claim 56 (currently amended): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system configured to articulate in conjunction with a condyle portion of a femoral component, the system comprising:

a tibial implant comprising an articular component having an articular surface, a tibial plate supporting said articular component, and a tibial post extending from said tibial plate, wherein said articular surface of said articular component articulates against the condyle portion of the femoral component; and

a tibial augment comprising an annular ~~ring-shaped~~ body, said annular ~~ring-shaped~~ body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having a proximal face with a proximal opening, said proximal opening providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment terminating distally at a distal face with a distal opening, said distal opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said proximal opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending distally through said distal opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said ~~ring-shaped annular body of said tibial augment, said passageway defining a longitudinal axis, said passageway sized to allow movement of said tibial post in a transverse direction relative to said longitudinal axis within said passageway of said tibial augment, wherein when said tibial augment is positioned in the tibia said longitudinal axis of~~

~~said passageway is generally aligned with an anatomical axis of the tibia and said passageway is sized to allow movement of said tibial post in a medial-lateral direction and an anterior-posterior direction relative to the anatomical axis when said tibial post is positioned through said passageway.~~

Claim 57 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment comprises tantalum porous material.

Claim 58 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal end.

Claim 59 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal end.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment tapering from said proximal end to said distal end.

Claim 61 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said interior wall includes an anterior surface having a recess extending from a proximal end to a distal end of said annular ~~ring-shaped~~ body.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment defining a medial height between said proximal end and said distal end at a medial most point of said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a lateral height between said proximal end and said distal end at a lateral

most point of said tibial augment, said distal end including a stepped surface in which said medial height is nonequal to said lateral height.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

Claim 64 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said exterior wall defines a substantially planar posterior surface.

Claim 65 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said exterior wall defines a curved anterior surface, a curved medial surface, and a curved lateral surface.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said annular ~~ring-shaped~~ body defines a substantially constant thickness between said interior wall and said exterior wall.

Claim 67 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, further comprising a plurality of said tibial augments, each said tibial augment defining a unique height between a proximal end and a distal end of said annular ~~ring-shaped~~ body.

Claim 68 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said proximal face of said tibial augment abuts a substantially distal face of said tibial plate.

Claim 69 (new): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system comprising:

- a tibial plate;
- a tibial post configured to extend from said tibial plate; and

a tibial augment comprising an annular body, said annular body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having an anterior face with an anterior opening, said anterior opening providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment having a posterior face with a posterior opening, said posterior opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said anterior opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending posteriorly through said posterior opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said tibial augment.

Claim 70 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said tibial augment defines a length from said proximal face to said distal face, said tibial augment tapering along at least a portion of said length between said proximal face and said distal face.

Claim 71 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said proximal face has a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal face.

Claim 72 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said proximal face has an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal face.

Claim 73 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said interior wall includes an anterior surface having a recess extending from said proximal face to said distal face of said annular body.

Claim 74 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

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Claim 75 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, further comprising a plurality of said tibial augments, each said tibial augment defining a unique height between a proximal end and a distal end of said annular body.